



# San Antonio International Airport

## Construction Update

June 30, 2005

### *"New Look" Set to Land at SAT.*

### *New Entryway Monuments are Just the Beginning*

Some major changes are on the way at San Antonio International Airport. In fact, airport patrons can expect to see an entirely different look at the facility's two main entryways and roadways in the very near future. New monuments will be placed at both the Airport Boulevard entrance along Loop 410, as well as the South Terminal Dr. entrance off U.S. 281. The monuments are part of a \$1.2 million landscape makeover which will impact more than twenty acres stretching from the entryways to the terminals. "Within a few years the entire airport is going to have a new look to it," says Assistant Aviation Director Dom Smith. "It just made sense to update the look in the area where passengers get their first look at us."

And that look is going to be distinctly "South Texan." The monuments, which are actually a collection of seven separate pieces, feature three materials which are very familiar to the people of San Antonio. Limestone, raw steel and punched aluminum will all come together to create a vibrant and exciting look for airport patrons. And the best news of all... the entryways are just the beginning. Landscaping projects will stretch all the way from Loop 410 to beyond "Challenger Plaza." Berms will be created along Airport Boulevard giving drivers the sense that they're traveling along a hill-sloped path. Just to the side of that road you'll find dozens of new lampposts, each designed to reflect the character of San Antonio. And before the driver reaches the terminal there's one last aesthetic surprise...a piece of artwork designed by Margo Sawyer, featuring more than a dozen multi-colored blocks and cubes along with a rock wall with water cascading over it. "We placed a lot of importance on capturing the look and feel of San Antonio," says landscape architect Walter Heard of Gould Evans Associates.

*Artist Rendering of Monument*



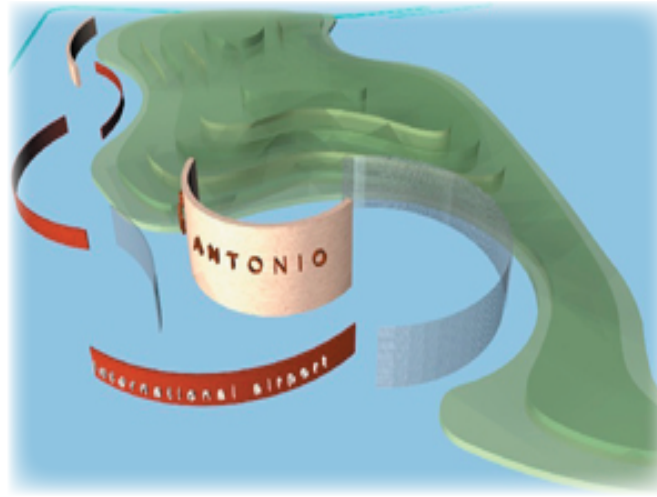


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And the effort to reflect San Antonio had an impact on a host of different choices, all the way down to what type of greenery was used. Native oak trees and crepe myrtles are just two examples of the designers's serious commitment to capture the "Texas flavor." But beauty wasn't the only consideration. Following the directives laid out in the 1998 Landscape Master Plan, water-conservation was also in the forefront of everyone's mind when this project was first designed. As a result, drought-tolerant plants were chosen whenever possible and xeriscaping dominated the landscaping discussions right from the start.

And the discussion of water also played a role in a different way. The all-important San Antonio River provided the inspiration behind the two monuments marking the airport's entrances. The design is based on prehistoric pictographs where the staggered, open-ended spiral always pointed the reader toward the nearest river, in this case the famed Riverwalk. It's just another way of making sure San Antonio's heritage plays a pivotal role in shaping its future. And so far, all signs are indicating that that approach is paying off in a beautiful way!

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